

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:249
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000
IMPORT OF COTTON
SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cotton import by private millers during the current crop season is likely to be higher despite the Government's decision to ban on import of cotton from Pakistan ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) the expected production of cotton during the current year ;
- (d) whether the ban on import of cotton from neighbouring Pakistan would divert the attention of importers ;
- (e) if so, the details thereof ;
- (f) whether the cotton advisory board has projected imports to fall to five lakh bales during the current year ; and; (g) if so, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a) & (b): As per preliminary estimates of the Cotton Advisory Board (CAB), in its meeting held on 19/11/1999, the import of cotton during the current cotton season 1999-2000 (October - September) would be around 5 lakh bales (of 170 kg each) as compared to 7.87 lakh bales imported during 1998-99 (October - September).
- (c): As per the estimates of the CAB (as on 19.11.1999), cotton production for the current cotton year 1999-2000 (October - September) is around 175 lakh bales (170 kg each).
- (d) & (e): Depending on the price and quality parameters of the cotton, it is likely that some of the intending importers of Pakistan cotton may look to other cotton exporting countries for fulfillment of their requirement in view of the ban on import of Pakistan cotton.
- (f) & (g): The Cotton Advisory Board, in its meeting held on 19-11-1999, has made preliminary estimates of imports of 05 lakh bales (of 170 kg each) during the current cotton year 1999-2000 as against 7.87 lakh bales during last cotton year 1998-99, mainly on the basis of domestic prices of cotton vis-a-vis prices of cotton in the international market, estimates of domestic cotton production and likely consumption in the domestic market. Such estimates are reviewed from time to time.